THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) The Drugs Controller General (India) has approved Mifepristone 200mg tablet (Abortion Pill) for the medical termination of intrauterine pregnancy, subject to the condition that it should be sold by retail on the prescription of Gynaecologists only and the product should be used only under supervision of Gynaecologists and in hospitals where backup facilities are available for blood transfusion and medical termination of pregnancy.

Use of old anti-rabies vaccine

†518. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that instead of using new vaccine for prevention of Rabies disease caused by mad dogs bite, old vaccine is being used in the Government hospitals;

(b) whether Government have made any inquiry in this regard; and

(c) if so, the outcome of the said inquiry and the action taken against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Two types of vaccines, namely Neural Tissue Vaccine (NTV) and Tissue Culture Anti Rabies Vaccine (TCARV) to prevent rabies are in use by the Government hospitals. The neuro-paralytic reactions due to the old vaccine, *i.e.* NTV are very rare, as no death has been reported after administration of this vaccine. In view of WHO's recommendations to prefer the use of TCARV, a decision has been taken to phase out NTV gradually.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Janani Suraksha Yojana

†519. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that "Janani Suraksha Yojana" has been started for women in order to bring down maternal mortality rate and infant mortality rate by providing the facility of safe child-birth;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the funds made available for providing basic facilities at block level for successful implementation of this scheme in BIMARU States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) The Government proposes to introduce a new Scheme in the name of "Janani Suraksha Yojana" in near future. Besides the reduction of maternal & infant mortality, the scheme intends to protect female foeticide. Towards this, it aims at providing incentive to increase institutional delivery. The scheme will focus necessarily in those States/UTs where rate of institutional delivery is low. Modalities of the scheme are under finalization.

Shortage of drugs in Safdarjung Hospital

520. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Safdarjung Hospital is running short of essential drugs which are of regular use for the patients and the patients are asked to bring them from the market;

(b) if so, the action being taken/proposed to be taken; and

(c) whether authorities of the Safdarjung Hospital had informed Government about the shortage earlier?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no shortage of essential drugs which are of regular use of the patients, in Safdarjung Hospital. In case of non-availability of essential and life saving medicines, the same are also procured and supplied to the poor patients.

False reporting of sterilization targets

521. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many instances of false reporting of sterilization targets by the units under the Family Welfare Scheme without actually performing the operations have come to Government's notice;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the system evolved to confirm that the sterilization operations have actually been performed;